

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 01677 141527Z

45

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AF-10 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-19 SAB-01

NIC-01 DRC-01 /159 W

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R 141445Z MAR 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4614

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USINT DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1677

FROM MEPC DEL

3.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF, US, SY

SUBJ: CURRENT VIEWS OF USSR MIDDLE EAST DELEGATION

REF: GENEVA 1071

1. DURING MARCH 14 CALL BY DELOFF ON ZHUKOV OF SOVIET MEPC DEL, ZHUKOV VOLUNTEERED COMMENT THAT ISRAELI FEARS ABOUT POSSIBLE SYRIAN MILITARY USE OF GOLAN HEIGHTS IF ISRAEL RETURNED THIS TERRITORY TO SYRIA WERE "UNDERSTANDABLE." BUT ISRAELIS SHOULD APPRECIATE THAT SARG WAS NOW PREPARED TO HAVE AREA DEMILITARIZED UNDER UN INSPECTION AND TO AGREE TO UN SECURITY COUNCIL GUARANTEE OF INVIOABILITY OF SYRIAN-ISRAELI BORDER, WHICH "SHOULD BE STRONG ENOUGH SECURITY ASSURANCE FOR ANYONE." ZHUKOV STATED THAT SYRIA WAS NOW READY TO SEEK PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS, BUT ISRAELIS WERE DEEPLY SUSPICIOUS AND UNCOMPRO-
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 01677 141527Z

MISING. ZHUKOV ADDED OPINION THAT ISRAELI PERCEPTIONS OF

SYRIA WERE OUTDATED; FOR EXAMPLE, UNLIKE SITUATION IN 1967, THERE WERE NO ACTS OF "HOOLIGANISM" AGAINST SYRIAN JEWISH COMMUNITY DURING OCTOBER WAR.

2. ZHUKOV SAID HE DID NOT THINK THERE WOULD BE ANY MIDDLE EAST CONFERENCE ACTIVITY IN GENEVA FOR MANY WEEKS AND MAYBE FOR FORESEEABLE FUTURE. ALTHOUGH AMB VINOGRADOV WOULD REMAIN HERE, VINOGRADOV HAD JUST SENT HIS WIFE BACK TO MOSCOW, AND ZHUKOV HIMSELF EXPECTED NEXT WEEK, FOR FIRST TIME SINCE CONFERENCE OPENING IN DECEMBER, TO BE AUTHORIZED TO RETURN TO MOSCOW TO SEE HIS FAMILY FOR A FEW DAYS. DALE

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